



## **Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office**

### **Personnel Accounting Progress in China**

**As of May 08, 2007**

#### **Cold War Statistics**

Recovered Alive	Remains Recovered	Remains Identified	Unaccounted-For
12	5	5	28 <sup>1</sup>

#### **China Operations**

	Total	Identified
Remains repatriated through unilateral operations (1975)	2	2
Remains recovered and repatriated through investigative and recovery operations since 1992	23	23
Total remains identified 1975 to present	25	25

#### **Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) 2007 Goals**

- Maintain investigative and recovery efforts in China.
- Continue to encourage the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Ministry of National Defense (MND), specifically the People's Liberation Army (PLA), to research their military archives for information pertaining to American POWs during the Korean War and U.S. personnel unaccounted-for during other conflict eras.
- Interact with non-governmental agencies, such as the Red Cross Society of China and veterans groups, to expand cooperation on accounting efforts in China.

#### **Status of U.S. – China Cooperation**

- The MFA is the U.S. Government's principal channel for engaging the Government of China on the accounting issue.
- Overall, cooperation is cordial and, as detailed information becomes available, productive.

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<sup>1</sup> **November 29, 1952** – The Chinese shot down in Jilin Province a CIA-operated C-47 with four crewmembers. The pilot and co-pilot died in the crash, and two other crewmembers were captured and returned to U.S. control in 1971 and 1973. In 2004, JPAC recovered and identified the remains of the pilot. The co-pilot remains unaccounted-for.

**January 18, 1953** – Chinese ground fire damaged a U.S. Navy P2V carrying 13 crewmembers, causing it to ditch in the Taiwan Straits. Initially, a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) PBM-5G aircraft with a crew of eight rescued 11 of the P2V crewmembers; however, it crashed on take-off in heavy seas. The USS Halsey Powell rescued 10 crewmembers from both aircraft. Six P2V crewmembers and five PBM-5G crewmembers remain unaccounted-for.

**August 22, 1956** – Chinese fighter aircraft shot down a U.S. Navy P4M carrying 16 crewmembers off the Zhoushan Archipelago. U.S. ships recovered two remains and the Chinese recovered and repatriated two other remains of crewmembers. Twelve Americans remain unaccounted-for.

**October 01, 1958** – *Cold War operational loss.* Taiwan's military chartered a civilian PBY-5A amphibious plane, named "Blue Swan" or "Blue Goose," to ferry four U.S. servicemen and three Taiwanese officers from the island of Matsu back to Taiwan, but it never arrived. The cause of disappearance has not been determined, and no wreckage or survivors were ever found, despite an intense three-day air-sea search. All onboard remain unaccounted-for.

- The Chinese understand the importance of the accounting issue to the American public.
- The Chinese view POW/MIA cooperation as a bilateral humanitarian issue within the purview of the MFA, not the PLA.
- The Department of Defense continues to engage Ministry of National Defense (MND) officials to access information in their archives materials. PLA archives likely contain information that will assist in identifying Korean War remains already recovered and locating remains of U.S. personnel unaccounted-for in North Korea, and may help resolve select Southeast Asia and Cold War cases.

### **Recent Events**

- July 2006: During a meeting with Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld, China's highest-ranking military General committed to assist actively in our efforts to account for missing Americans and search for documents in China's military archives.
- September 2006: A joint DPMO/JPAC team met with Chinese MND, PLA, and MFA officials. They discussed efforts to access to China's military archives and investigated one of the six sites proposed in December 2005. The MND proposed working with our archivists to develop a program that will result in locating materials related to unaccounted-for Americans. The site survey of a Korean War site (see map below) appears promising to support an investigation and recovery operation, possibly in summer 2007.
- December 2006: DUSD Lawless (APSA) hosted the Director, MND Foreign Affairs Office, North America Directorate, for policy coordination talks. During the meetings, they discussed the POW/MIA mission and our interest in China's military archives. The Chinese representative said China was interested in providing as much assistance as possible for the POW/MIA mission and military archivists ready to meet with DPMO to discuss the archives issue.
- January 2007: DPMO and JPAC met with Chinese MND and MFA officials in Beijing to discuss personnel accounting initiatives for 2007. The MND reiterated its commitment to assist the U.S. in the accounting mission and reported it is searching for, locating, and organizing POW/MIA related information in its archives. JPAC presented 15 cases to the Chinese for recovery, investigation, and research.
- March 2007: China's MFA approved one case for an investigation and recovery operation from August through September 2007. This case involves three aircrew members lost during the Korean War. The MFA stated the other cases presented in January 2007 remain under consideration. The MND also committed to sending a delegation of archivists to Washington, DC and Hawaii in mid-May 2007 to meet with DPMO and JPAC personnel.